

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 204759

ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 EB-07 IGA-02 INR-07

CIAE-00 L-03 OMB-01 NSC-05 TRSE-00 H-02 SP-02

/056 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:RJSLOTT:RF

APPROVED BY PM/SAS - DJJAMES

DOD/DSAA - COL. MARTIN (INFO)

EUR/SE - MR. MORTON

EUR/RPM - MR. REHFELD (INFO)

-----081524Z 079500 /40 L

R 070517Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 104759

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:MASS, GR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FMS SALE OF TOW TO GREECE

REF: STATE 072947

1. RE PARA 5 REFTTEL, CONGRESS WAS PROVIDED FORMAL CERTIFICATION ON MAY 6 REGARDING THE PROPOSED LETTER OF OFFER FOR THE FMS SALE OF TOW LAUNCHERS, MISSILES AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT TO GREECE. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 36(B) OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT, AS AMENDED, THE QUOTE LETTER OF OFFER SHALL NOT BE ISSUED IF THE CONGRESS, WITHIN THIRTY CALENDAR DAYS AFTER RECEIVING SUCH CERTIFICATION, ADOPTS A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION STATING THAT IT OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED SALE UNQUOTE.

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2. FOLLOWING ARE THE PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS OF THE UNCLASSIFIED POLICY JUSTIFICATION WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE CERTIFICATION TO THE CONGRESS: QUOTE THIS PROPOSED LETTER OF OFFER WOULD AUTHORIZE THE SALE TO GREECE OF 82 TOW MISSILE LAUNCHERS WITH MISSILES AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT VALUED AT\$13.7 MILLION.THE TOW (TUBE-LAUNCHED, OPTICALLY-

TRACKED, WIRE-GUIDED) MISSILE IS A NEW GENERATION ANTI-TANK WEAPON WITH A TWO-MILE RANGE DESIGNED TO REPLACE THE 106MM RECOILLESS RIFLE.

GREECE HAS BEEN SEEKING TO UPGRADE ITS ANTI-TANK DEFENSES AND ADDITIONAL PURCHASES OF LAUNCHERS AND MISSILES CAN BE EXPECTED. THIS SALE WOULD FURTHER NATO STANDARDIZATION AND FORCE GOALS. TOW HAS BEEN SOLD TO ITALY, WEST GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, AND TURKEY.

WE HAVE EXAMINED THE RELATIVE MILITARY POSITIONS OF GREECE AND TURKEY, AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE PROPOSED SALE WOULD NOT BE DESTABILIZING WITH RESPECT TO THE MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE

3. AS APPROPRIATE, EMBASSY MAY INFORM HOST GOVERNMENT OF THIS CERTIFICATION TO THE CONGRESS.

4. EMBASSY WILL BE ADVISED IF ANY ACTION IS TAKEN BY CONGRESS WITHIN NEXT THIRTY DAYS OBJECTING TO THIS PROPOSED SALE. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 07-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: MASS, GR
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